

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

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1. (currently amended) An absorbent structure for absorbent articles, the absorbent structure ~~comprises~~ comprising:
- DN* a wetting region comprising partially neutralized superabsorbent material, the partially neutralized superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization between ~~20% and 50%~~ 25 and 35%;
- and a region outside of the wetting region including a superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization greater than the neutralization of the partially neutralized superabsorbent material,
- the absorbent structure has a thickness of 1 mm to 8 mm when dry,
- the wetting region comprising at least 40% by weight superabsorbent material.
2. (canceled)
3. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein the absorbent structure includes dry-formed, compressed chemithermomechanical pulp or chemical pulp.

4. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein said structure has a thickness of 1 mm to 3mm when dry.

5. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein said absorbent structure is intended for incontinence protectors or feminine products.

6. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein the superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization greater than the neutralization of the partially neutralized superabsorbent material has a degree of neutralization of about 70%.

7. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein the structure comprises a first zone closer to the wearer including the partially neutralized superabsorbent material and a second zone located beneath the first zone in a direction from the wearer of the absorbent article, wherein the second zone comprises superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization of about 70%.

8. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1, wherein the partially superabsorbent is placed in a layer or sheet in a bottom or lower part of the structure.

9. (previously presented) An absorbent article comprising:  
an upper liquid-permeable sheet,  
a bottom liquid-impermeable barrier sheet, and  
an absorbent structure according to Claim 1 enclosed therebetween.

10. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 1,  
wherein the absorbent article is a diaper, pants diaper, incontinence protector, sanitary  
napkin, or panty liner.

11. (previously presented) An absorbent structure according to Claim 9,  
wherein the absorbent article is a diaper, pants diaper, incontinence protector, sanitary  
napkin, or panty liner.


12. (previously presented) An absorbent structure for absorbent articles, the  
absorbent structure comprising:

a first zone arranged closer to a wearer including partially neutralized  
superabsorbent material, the partially neutralized superabsorbent material having a degree  
of neutralization between 20% and 50%;

and a second zone located beneath the first zone in a direction away from the  
wearer, the second zone including superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization  
greater than the degree of neutralization of the partially neutralized superabsorbent  
material,

the absorbent structure having a thickness of 1 mm to 8 mm when dry,  
the first zone comprising at least 40% by weight superabsorbent material.

13. (previously presented) The absorbent structure according to Claim 12,  
wherein the superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization greater than the  
degree of neutralization of the partially neutralized superabsorbent material has a degree of  
neutralization of about 70%.

 14. (new) An absorbent structure for absorbent articles, the absorbent structure  
comprising:

a first zone arranged closer to a wearer including partially neutralized  
superabsorbent material, the partially neutralized superabsorbent material having a degree  
of neutralization between 25% and 35%;

and a second zone located beneath the first zone in a direction away from the  
wearer, the second zone including superabsorbent material having a degree of neutralization  
greater than the degree of neutralization of the partially neutralized superabsorbent  
material,

the absorbent structure having a thickness of 1 mm to 8 mm when dry,  
the first zone comprising at least 40% by weight superabsorbent material.

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